GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2629
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2004
SPECIAL DROUGHT RELIEF PRICES
Jha Shri Raghunath;Singh Shri Prabhunath

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government propose to announce special drought relief prices in excess of normal Minimum Support Price in view of the impending drought;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) If not, the reasons therefor ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a) : No, Sir .

(b) : Does not arise.

(c): The serious rainfall deficiency in July, 2002 necessitated additional expenses on cultivation of Kharif crops in 2002-03. In order to provide relief to farmers the Government, therefore, announced special drought relief price over and above Minimum Support Prices of Kharif crops of 2002-03 season. As the deficiency in rainfall in 2004 is much less serious than the deficiency in 2002, the Government have not announced any special drought relief price.The Government has recently announced the Price Policy for Kharif Crops of 2004-05 season. Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for all the Kharif crops have been fixed at a level higher than those for 2003-04 season. A statement showing the MSPs of major agricultural commodities announced in recent years is enclosed.